

ORDINANCE NO. 1823

AN UNCODIFIED INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL **OF** THE CITY OF LODI EXTENDING ORDINANCE
NO. 1822 IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT **OR** OPERATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA
DISPENSARIES IN THE CITY OF LODI

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WHEREAS, in 1996, the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 215, which was codified as Health and Safety Code Section 11362.5, et seq. and entitled the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 ("the Act"); and

WHEREAS, the intent of Proposition 215 was to enable persons who are in need of marijuana for medical purposes to obtain and use it under limited, specified circumstances; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2004, Senate Bill 420 became effective to clarify the scope of the Act and to allow cities and counties to adopt and enforce rules and regulations consistent with SB 420 and the Act; and

WHEREAS, under the U.S. Controlled Substances Act, marijuana is classified as a Schedule 1 drug, meaning it has no accepted medical use; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi (the "City") has received inquiries from members of the public as to the permitting process and zoning regulations for operating medical marijuana dispensaries within the City; and

WHEREAS, medical marijuana dispensaries raise issues of first impression for the City, which currently does not address or regulate in any manner the existence or location of medical marijuana dispensaries in its Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, based on recent trends, the City believes that it may receive a growing number of inquiries for such businesses, including an application in the immediate future; and

WHEREAS, other California cities that have permitted the establishment of medical marijuana dispensaries have witnessed an increase in crime, such as burglaries, robberies, and the sale of illegal drugs in the areas immediately surrounding such dispensaries; and

WHEREAS, the City must study and analyze concerns about the potential negative impacts on the public health, safety, and welfare arising from medical marijuana dispensaries, including, but not limited to, criminal incidents, loitering, disturbing the peace, and property damage; and

WHEREAS, the City must study the scope of the City's police power and draft the necessary municipal code provisions; and

WHEREAS, if medical marijuana dispensaries were allowed to be established in the City without appropriate regulation, such uses might be established in areas that

would conflict with the General Plan currently under consideration by the Planning Commission and the City Council, be inconsistent with surrounding uses, or be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare; and if such uses were allowed to proceed as allowed under the current zoning, such uses could conflict with, and defeat the purpose of, the proposal to study and adopt new regulations regarding medical marijuana dispensaries; and

WHEREAS, the issuing of permits, business licenses, or other applicable entitlements providing for the establishment and/or operation of medical marijuana dispensaries, prior to the completion of the City's study of the potential impact of such facilities, poses a current and immediate threat to the public health, safety, and welfare, and that a temporary moratorium on the issuance of such permits, licenses, and entitlements is thus necessary; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and Section 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; it prevents changes in the environment pending the completion of the contemplated General Plan adoption and zoning ordinance review; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code §65858 authorizes cities to adopt moratoriums on land use entitlements in order to study any uses that may be in conflict with a contemplated general plan, specific plan, or zoning proposal; and

WHEREAS, for the protection of the public's health, safety, and general welfare, the City Council on April 15, 2009, adopted Ordinance No. 1822 entitled an Uncodified Urgency Interim Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lodi making findings and imposing a forty-five (45) day moratorium on the establishment or operation of medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Lodi; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to extend Ordinance No. 1822 for a period of ten (10) months and fifteen (15) days, as permitted by Government Code Section 65858, to maintain the current status quo and to provide time for the City to study applicable law, a permit or licensing procedure, the appropriate zoning districts for such uses, and adopt regulatory standards and conditions to be imposed on such operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LODI CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council finds that in accordance with the terms and provisions of Section 65858 of the Government Code, and following notice given in the time and manner required by law, it held a public hearing on the extension of Ordinance No. 1822 on May 20, 2009. After hearing all applicable evidence, the City Council finds that the conditions and findings cited in Ordinance 1822 continue to exist and that further study by City staff is necessary in order to study applicable law, a permit or licensing procedure, the appropriate zoning districts for such uses, and to adopt regulatory standards and conditions to be imposed on such operations.

Section 2. Imposition of Moratorium.

A. In accordance with Government Code Section 65858, from and after the date of the expiration of Ordinance No. 1822, no use permit, variance, building permit, business license, or other applicable entitlement for use shall be approved or issued for the establishment or operation of a medical marijuana dispensary for a period of ten (10) months and fifteen (15) days.

B. For purposes of this Ordinance, "medical marijuana dispensary" shall mean any facility or location where a primary caregiver intends to or does make available, sell, transmit, give, or otherwise provide medical marijuana to two or more of the following: a qualified patient, a person with an identification card, or a primary caregiver. For purposes of this ordinance, the terms "primary caregiver," "qualified patient," and "identification card" shall have the same meaning as that set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7, *et seq.*

C. For purposes of this Ordinance, a medical marijuana dispensary shall not include the following uses, as long as the location of such uses is otherwise regulated by applicable law and as long as such use complies strictly with applicable law, including, but not limited to, Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7, *et seq.*: (1) a clinic, licensed pursuant to Chapter 1, Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with 51200); (2) a health care facility, licensed pursuant to Chapter 2 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with 51250); (3) a residential care facility for persons with chronic life-threatening illness, licensed pursuant to Chapter 3.01 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with §1568.01); (4) a residential care facility for the elderly, licensed pursuant to Chapter 3.2 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with §1569); or (5) a hospice or home health agency licensed pursuant to Chapter 8 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with §1725), the owner or operator, or no more than three employees who are designated by the owner or operator, of the clinic, facility, hospice, or home health agency, if designated as a primary caregiver by that qualified patient or person with an identification card.

D. This Ordinance is an urgency ordinance adopted pursuant to the authority granted to the City of Lodi by Government Code Section 65858 and is for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare. The City Council of the City of Lodi hereby finds and declares that there is a need to enact an urgency ordinance establishing a moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries, based upon the following findings:

- (1) California cities that have permitted the establishment of medical marijuana dispensaries have found that such dispensaries have resulted in negative and harmful secondary effects, such as an increase in crime, including robberies, burglaries, and sales of illegal drugs in the areas immediately surrounding medical marijuana dispensaries. This potential for increased risk of crime and violence presents a clear and immediate danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Lodi; and
- (2) The City has recently received inquiries from members of the public as to the permitting process and zoning regulations for operating medical marijuana dispensaries within the City; and

- (3) The City does not currently have standards in its Municipal Code relating to the location, operation, and concentration of medical marijuana dispensaries within the City; and
- (4) If medical marijuana dispensaries were allowed to be established without appropriate review of location and operational criteria and standards, such uses might be established in areas that would conflict with the General Plan under consideration by the Planning Commission and the City Council, be inconsistent with surrounding uses, or could have potential adverse secondary effects on neighborhoods in the City and be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare; and
- (5) The failure to extend the existing moratorium may result in significant irreversible change in the character of the community and the neighborhood surrounding any marijuana dispensary that would be allowed to open under the City's Municipal Code; and
- (6) Permitting a marijuana dispensary to open while the City is studying and considering a new General Plan as well as zoning regulations to regulate and/or prohibit this use would defeat the purpose of studying these impacts in the first place; and
- (7) **As** a result of the negative and harmful secondary effects associated with medical marijuana dispensaries and the current and immediate threat such secondary effects pose to the public health, safety, and welfare, it is necessary to extend the existing moratorium on the establishment and operation of medical marijuana dispensaries in the City for a period of ten (10) months and fifteen (15) days from and after the date of the expiration of Ordinance No. 1822, to allow for the completion of the City's study of the potential impacts of medical marijuana dispensaries and possible amendments to the City's Municipal Code.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part thereof ~~is~~ for any **reason** held to be unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council of the City of Lodi hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective.

Section 4. No Mandatory Duty of Care. This Ordinance is not intended to and shall not be construed or given effect in a manner which imposes upon the City, or any officer or employee thereof, a mandatory duty of care towards persons or property within the City or outside of the City so as to provide a basis of civil liability for damages, except as otherwise imposed by law.

